Mission News.

WITH ESPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE WORK OF THE AMERICAN BOARD IN JAPAN.

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KOBE COLLEGE NUMBER.

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Personals.

Born Dec. 28, 1907, to Rev. and Mrs. E. S. Cobb, Niigata, a son, Edward Scribner Cobb, Jr.

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Miss Fanny B. Greene visited Miss Howe during the holidays. It was a pleasure to meet her again, after twenty years, for some of us.

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It was a pleasure recently to entertain that missionary grandson of Grandpa Maruyama, whose picture appeared in the Hokkaidō number of MISSION NEWS, in December.

* * * *

Mrs. John R. Ball, formerly Miss Goodman of Kobe College, is now living at Wauconda, Ill., where Mr. Ball has charge of a church. He is also carrying on studies at Northwestern University. Their little son, Clayton, was a year old in December.

* * * *

Miss Grace Learned, after two years' work at the Baikwa Girls' School, Osaka, begins teaching at the Kyōto Girls' School this month. We congratulate the latter, but feel sorry for the former, with no one in prospect to take up the work thus laid down.

* * * *

Miss Hocking, the Mission's latest recruit, took advantage of the Christmas vacation in the Tokyo Language School to visit the scene of her future labors, the Woman's Evangelistic School at Kobe. The Kobe Station has been glad to welcome her and introduce her to its work and its friends.

* * * *

Miss Mary Turner, whom many of us knew first as Miss Searle's cousin, and then learned to love for her own sake, left for America via Honolulu, on Dec. 9. During her eight months' stay in

Japan, and principally at Kobe College, she has performed the valuable service of making the long-desired card catalogue of the English books in the College library.

* * * *

It was a great pleasure to welcome, last month, at several of our stations, Miss Ruth P. Ward, Mt. Holyoke, '03, daughter of our late Treas. Ward, *en route* for Fuchow, where she is to be associated with Miss Elsie M. Garretson, in the Ponasang Girls' School, the oldest educational institution of that mission; it was opened about 1853 and now has ninety pupils.

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Our deep sympathy goes out to the bereaved friends in the home land, and to the United Brethren Mission, in the loss of Rev. Monroe Crecelius, who died unexpectedly at Otsu, Dec. 20, 1907, after a brief illness. He had been in Japan about one year, and was one of two fraternal delegates from his mission to our last annual mission meeting. During the last term he had been assisting at the Dōshisha, taking a part of Mr. Grover's work.

General Notes.

At Takahashi and at Uwajima as a result of special evangelistic work last month, there were respectively 61 and 50 baptisms.

* * * *

The first matron of Kobe College, Yamada Atsuko, died at Osaka, a few months ago, aged 84. She was quite a Chinese scholar.

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On page 59 we have an exemplification of the usual spirituality, intellectuality and brevity which characterize Miss Searle's formal utterances on public occasions.

* * * *

Miss Gertrude Cozad, Principal of the Woman's Evangelistic School, and her associates, are rejoicing in the prospect of a new Woman's Theological Hall, now fully half completed.

* * * *

After a year and a half of waiting, Tottori Church at last rejoices in a pastor. Mr. Matsumoto has gone to them from the Takasaki Church, in the Jōshū field, where he was successful and popular.

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If this number of MISSION NEWS falls under the eye of any of that band of American children who worked to earn the first fifty dollars given toward Music Hall, they will sit up and take notice. Miss Torrey's article will especially interest them.

* * * *

Miss C. B. DeForest is in charge of the Sunday School work conducted by students of Kobe College. In connection with her article it is interesting to recall that the first organized Sunday School in Kobe, was started, Dec. 7, 1873, by Dr. John C. Berry, of Worcester, Mass.

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ORDER OF EXERCISES.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY.
Maki Hitotsuyanagi.

INVOCATION ...Rev. J. D. Davis, D.D.,
President of the Board of Managers.

CHANT .....Kobe College Chorus.

SCRIPTURE RECITATION.
Kobe College Pupils.

ANTHEM: "THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD."—*Smart.*
Kobe College Chorus.

READING OF THE IMPERIAL RESCRIPT, AND RESPONSE.

STATEMENT OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE AND PRESENTATION OF KEYS .....Rev. George Allchin.

RESPONSE BY THE PRINCIPAL.
Miss Susan A. Searle.

DEDICATION SONG..Kobe College Chorus.

ADDRESS .....Rev. T. Harada.

DEDICATORY PRAYER..Rev. T. Watase.

ANTHEM: "YE SHALL DWELL IN THE LAND."—*Stainer.*
Kobe College Chorus.
CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES.
DOXOLOGY.
BENEDICTION.
Rev. J. L. Atkinson. D.D.

* * * *

Dr. Davis writes as follows about the purchase of a site and the erection of the first building at Kobe College:

"In the early spring of 1875, we began to look for a site for the Girls' School. The present site was the most desirable of any we could find, but we had only $3,000, and the price of this site was $1,800. Some months were spent in searching for a cheaper place, but nothing which was at all satisfactory was found. We secured gifts from Japanese friends, amounting to about eight hundred *yen*, when *yen* were equal to dollars. The Sanda *daimyō* gave five hundred *yen*, another man, who owned a good deal of the land on the hill, gave me two one hundred *yen* bills. The present site was owned, if I recollect right, by a retainer of the Sanda *daimyō*, and, having secured this generous sum from the Japanese, we paid $1,800 for the present site, and had $2,200 left to erect buildings with. I drew the plan for the original building, to try to give a home for the ladies, and school rooms and dormitory for the girls, so as to get it within the $2,200 and let the contract before I removed to Kyoto, in the fall of 1875, and Dr. Atkinson took charge of the building. Whenever I have entered the ladies' home during the last thirty years, and have seen the small halls and rooms and crampt quarters, my conscience has troubled me, until I have stopt to think back, and realize again that it had to be built for $2,200."

Early Days of Kobe College.

It was early in 1875 that the members of Kobe Station, looking for a suitable place for a girls' school, found a plum-grove in the midst of rice fields so far from the residential part of Kobe that what seemed at that time a large tract of land, was secured at a comparatively low price, and the house was built which is now occupied by the lady missionaries, with a Reception Room and Reading Room for the pupils.

When the School was opened, Oct. 12, 1875, with only five boarding pupils and two resident teachers, Miss Dudley and myself, the building seemed almost extravagantly large, but we were hoping for speedy increase of pupils, in which hope we were not disappointed; for, seven years later, when the first class of twelve girls was graduated, there were fifty boarding pupils.

In October, 1875, Misses Dudley and Talcott had been in Japan two and a half years, and, for some time, had been teaching English a few hours each day, to a few boys and girls; at first, in rooms kindly furnished by Mr. Maeda, in Hanakuma, and, later, in Mr. Shirasu's house, which was the upper of the two houses below Shimoyamate-dōri, owned by the Sanda *daimyō*, whose children as well as those of Mr. Shirasu, were among the thirty day pupils with whom the school was opened on the present grounds.

The Kobe Church, the first in Central Japan, had been organized in the preceding year, with eleven members, four of whom were women, including the mother of the *daimyō*. Not only these Christians, but all our Japanese friends, were interested in our undertaking, and contributed nearly eight hundred *yen* for the first building.

Those who have only known the school in later years, closely hemmed in on every side by other buildings, can hardly imagine how isolated it was in those early days, with no thorofare in front—only a narrow path from the gate diagonally crossing the rice fields. Our friends as they came to see us, would exclaim, "what a beautiful view you have! but are you not *very lonely*, so far away from everybody?"

Ours was the only school for girls in Central Japan, and with some of our best friends the advisability of such a school was an open question. One of them, then unmarried, whose daughters have since been pupils in the school, with tears in his eyes, said one day to one of the teachers, that he was sure the girls who were being educated there would find no place in Japanese homes; we were only educating concubines for unprincipled foreigners. Again came the criticism, "your girls are getting to walk like *men!*" and again, "in church they do not keep their eyes cast down, as they should."

Miss Barrows reached Japan in 1876 and from the first joined the Faculty, and resided in the school. The first graduates have nearly all become teachers or are efficient helpmeets of pastors, sending their daughters to their alma mater. It was truly a small beginning compared with Kobe College, but so is the acorn from which comes the wide-spreading branches of the oak. As we look back thus to the day of small things, and recognize the guiding Hand that led us to plant the seed which has already borne such rich fruit, may we not surely be encouraged to expect, with the same divine guidance, a yet richer harvest in the future?

ELIZA TALCOTT.

The Dedication at Kobe College.

June 25.—"Shall we be able to use the new chapel for the special meetings the middle of October?" "Oh! yes, everything will be done by the end of September." (But the special meetings were held in the crowded room where for a year, we have packed ourselves in like sardines, for morning paryers.) Sept. 25.—"May the date for the dedication be set for the holiday, November 23?" "Yes, I think we are sure to be ready then, but you'd better consult the building committee once more before you have the invitations printed." Oct. 25.—"December 19th is the earliest possible date. Wouldn't it be better to postpone till next term?" But December 19th it was, tho a cabinet maker absconded with half the furniture plans, and the Chinese painters, never before known to fail in coming up to time, kept the building committee in suspense till the last moment. At noon on the 18th the reception room floor was covered with lime, and there seemed no prospect of its soon becoming habitable. Before bed-time the floor had been cleaned and oiled, furniture and tea things placed in order, and pictures hung. On the morning of the 17th an unsightly shed occupied the slope east of the Music Building; two days later it had disappeared, and the site had been smoothed over and planted with shrubs which seemed to have been growing there for months. At half past eight on the evening of the 18th, the book shelves in the new library were empty. A procession of the boarding pupils, each carrying an armful of books, soon changed all that, and an hour later the books were in place, arranged almost as they had been in the old cases.

The new library is a lasting monument to the interest of the Japanese friends of the school. In the spring of 1900, the school literary society proposed to start a library building fund, opening the bank account with a deposit of *yen* 2.50. At the quarter centennial of the school, celebrated in the fall of that year, the fund was reported to have multiplied a hundred fold. From time to time additions have been made until the sum of *yen* 1,344.55 was given to the building committee for finishing and furnishing the new library. The coffered ceiling, the tower window, and the beautiful reproduction of Sargent's Prophets, given by Chicago friends, add a touch of elegance to the two pleasant and appropriately furnished rooms, and the library is sure to be a most attractive part of the building.

Workmen were still busy here and

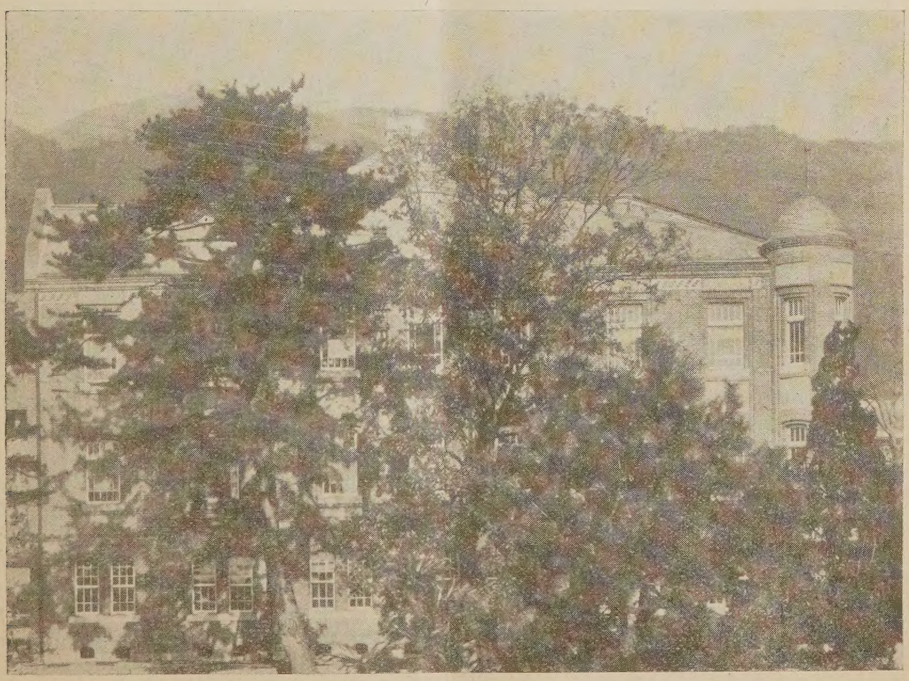
there when the guests began to gather on the morning of the 19th, but the exercises gave no evidence of lack of finish in the preparations. The program was carried out as printed with only a few moments' delay in beginning.

The presiding officer, as was fitting, was Mr. Yamanouchi, a member of the faculty for more than a quarter of a century. The words of the dedication song were written by Dr. Yuasa, who, besides his other claims to fame, is the husband of one of the alumnae members of the Board of Managers. The responsive recitation of selected passages by the students, class by class, instead of the ordinary Scripture reading, was very effective. Among the congratulatory messages was one from the Woman's Board of the Interior, read by Miss Cozad. The chairman of the building committee presented a most satisfactory report. President Harada spoke, as always, appropriately and inspiringly. The music rendered by the students had never been better, said those who could judge. Altogether, it was a day to make one glad to be alive and in the midst of the good times.

In the evening the Literary Society of the school held its annual public meeting. The new chapel was none too large for the audience of nine hundred.

The success of the evening proved the wisdom of the change of plan made a few months ago, when the teachers withdrew from active membership in the society, and the responsibility was assumed by the students. The teachers still give their counsel freely when asked, and some of them had spent many hours in drilling the students who took part in the public exercises. But the students had done their best in preparation, and it was gratifying to hear comments on the womanly dignity with which they carried their parts.

The "Talk on Fresh Water Algae," given by a member of the college biology class, was illustrated by charts



The New Chapel, Kobe College.

of her own drawing. Most of the Japanese parts were given unity by being read as a newspaper in four sections. This plan allowed more variety than could otherwise have been obtained. The greeting to the new chapel by the president of the society, recalled, by contrast, her paper on the despoiling of the lawn, read at the farewell meeting for the old chapel, a year ago.

The most ambitious English part was a rendering of selections from the Antigone of Sophocles. The music sung by the chorus was composed by the head of the music department, who found it easier to compose than to secure suitable music in any other way. If the friends who enjoyed the well rendered scenes that evening could have heard the first rehearsals, they would have realized how much hard work on the part of trainers and trained, had contributed to the evening's success.

"The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad." As we stand on the threshold of another year, our prayer is that we may live such lives and do such work as shall be worthy of the beautiful building which is to be henceforth the center of the intellectual and the spiritual life of our school.

SUSAN A. SEARLE.

Building Committee's Report.

At the dedication Rev. Geo. Allchin made a report for the Building Committee, consisting of Miss Olive S. Hoyt and himself. Too much can not be said in appreciation of the work done by this committee. The following is the gist of the report.

The present Ladies' Home, begun in 1875, but completed the next year, was the first building. It was chapel, recitation hall, domitory, library and missionary home combined, but even so critics were not wanting to declaim against its size and extravagance. Tho the grounds were only some two thirds the present area, the critics advocated setting apart eno to form a mission cemetery, and two children were actually buried in the vicinity of Dr. Holbrook's house. In 1875 and later, a portion of the grounds consisted of a plum orchard and in whatever direction the eye wandered scarcely a house was to be seen. The site was a lonely spot in the country, close under the brow of the mountains, with no roads, much less streets, leading to it. Indeed, few houses had then been built north of the railroad. In 1877 a second building was erected, but after ten years, was replaced by the chapel which was demolished in 1906.

Environment deeply affects the character of a school and that of its pupils. Wholesome and tidy surroundings exercise an agreeable influence upon the mind, but many a lesson in hygiene in a sanitary, attractive class-room, is spoiled when the student goes forth to find filthy drains and rubbish about the premises. No one can see a vase of flowers in the guest room, without having pleasurable emotions awakened and flower arrangement is an excellent study, but to live among plants and absorb, from day to day, the beauty of the growing flower or watch the natural development of tree and shrub, is to be influenced, however imperceptibly, yet still more strongly.

The effect of the well-ventilated, well-lighted, cheerful, clean, roomy recitation halls in this new building, will be more beneficial on the minds of students than that of small, dark, untidy rooms in an old building. We have endeavored to furnish such an attractive environment inside this building and without, in the grounds, as to secure the best possible results on the minds of students. No girl can attend five years in the midst of such beautiful surroundings without receiving a beneficial influence lasting thru all her life.

We feel we could have done little without the valuable assistance of the architect, Mr. Delalande, and of the

superintendent, Mr. Seki Chūjiro, who for eighteen months has worked indefatigably and harmoniously with us. We sympathize with the writer of the poem in the College magazine, lamenting the destruction of the former beautiful grounds and the loss of the great pines under whose spreading branches many a girl had opened her heart to God. It will be long before the alumnae will recover from the shock and lose their attachment for the old, altho in some respects the new grounds are better.

The sum of fifty-six thousand *yen* was received from a gift to the American Board by John D. Rockefeller. With this fund and other sums, the grounds have been put into their present shape and two fine buildings have been erected —the Academy Hall (1906) and this Chapel. In all, about thirty-five thousand dollars have been expended.

A. W. S.

Reception of Keys of Chapel and Administration Building, Kobe College.

DECEMBER 19, 1907.

It has been interesting to ask our students what part of the dedication exercises most impressed them. There has been but one reply—the transference of the keys from the Building Committee to the Principal of the College. The act was both novel and dramatic, and naturally interested the girls deeply. The clanging bunch of keys, strung on a ribbon of Kobe College blue, with their wooden labels dangling below, was indeed a symbol of deep significance felt by all beholders, as Mr. Allchin, with a few appropriate words, handed it to Miss Searle, its future guardian. Miss Searle's response was as follows:

"In the name of the teachers and students of this institution, I receive in trust these keys and the building they represent, with the confident hope that we may prove worthy of the trust.

As in the old days the keys of David opened for the Lord's people in the city of brotherly love, a door which no man could shut, so in these modern times the keys of the Son of David have opened to the women and girls of Japan many doors which can never be shut. As we enter the open doors of our beautiful new building today, let us not fail also to enter and take possession of the heritage that is ours, and to realize to the utmost the possibilities that are before us.

I wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation of the work of our Building Committee, Mr. Allchin and Miss Hoyt. Those of us who have watched the growth of the building all these months know something of its cost in weary days and sleepless nights, and partly realize with what wear and tear of flesh and spirit this beautiful result has been accomplished. It would not be possible to call the roll of all who have given generously of time and strength to make possible today's success, but one more name I wish to mention,—that of our overseer, Mr. Seki, whose faithful, untiring service, early and late, has taught us all a lesson we shall not soon forget."

C. B. DEFOREST.

The Gist of President Harada's Address.

The erection of such a fine and substantial building as this new Chapel shows more than anything else, the marvellous change and development society has undergone, especially as regards girls' education. The Japan of thirty or even twenty years ago, had no need for such a structure.

Female education is a comparatively new thing in Japan. In saying this I do not mean there were no educated women in old Japan. Back a thousand years Murasaki Shikibu was a great litterateur; women well versed in Chinese

and classical literature were not wanting in feudal times, but female education worthy the name, dates no farther back than forty years, and higher education above the academic grade, is of still later growth. It was after the Chino-Japanese War, that girls' high schools were established in almost every prefecture, numbering at present over one hundred.

Protestant missionaries were the leaders in the field of female education. The oldest institutions for the higher education of women in Japan, are almost all Christian, such as Ferris Female Seminary, at Yokohama, and Kobe College, among others. Is there nothing further to be desired in female education?.....When we compare it with that of the other sex, there at once appears much to be accomplished. There is a great need of Christian education which aims at the development of *woman* as woman, who shall be man's helpmate in every department of life, and not simply as *wife* and mother of his children, tho that be the most important of all woman's work.

I offer congratulation upon the completion of this building as a memorial of the friendship between America and Japan. Time will come when no more American teachers will walk these halls, yet this building will remain; or even the building may pass away, but the *work*, this Christian institution, the fruit of noble effort on the part of our American friends, will forever remain as a token of international friendship between the United States and Japan, as Yale and Harvard, named after their English benefactors, have always tended to promote good will between Great Britain and America. Threatening sensationalism of big fleets coming to Yokohama, nor rumors of war will ever be able to sever the bonds of Christian love, in which Kobe College and similar institutions, ever tend to bind the hearts of the Japanese and American people in friendship.

TASUKU HARADA.

W. B. M. I. Greetings to Kobe College.

The Executive Committee of the W. B. M. I. send greetings to the teachers and students of Kobe College on the occasion of the dedication of their new Chapel, Library and Administration Building. To enable the young women of Japan to obtain a Christian education has been one of the most satisfactory tasks that the Board has undertaken, and we feel very proud of Kobe College and the splendid work done there for Christ and the extension of his kingdom in Japan. Now you dedicate this building to the Lord's service as Solomon dedicated that first temple on Mt. Zion. Now, as then, may "God's name be there," and

"May faith grow firm,
And love grow warm,
And pure devotion rise."

We ask for God's blessing on Kobe College and may these new buildings be an inspiration to the young women of Japan to attain high Christian ideals, and to dedicate their lives to the service of our Lord and Master.

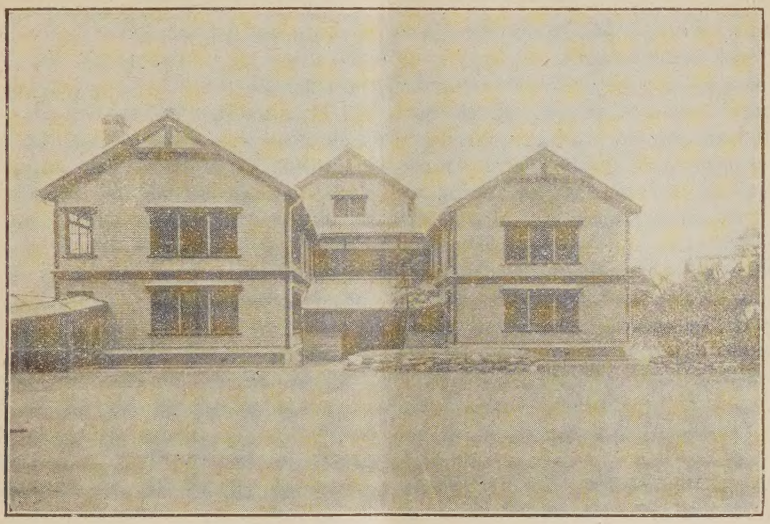
Yours in Christian love,
MRS. L. A. CARTON, Vice-Pres.

The Music Side.

"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" and of some other things.

For all Academy pupils, singing, twice a week, is compulsory. Occasionally, a pupil will be afflicted with sudden illness every singing-class morning, a letter from an obliging parent, certifying the same, being received the next day, but such strange dispensations of Providence are greatly influenced by suggestions from the Principal. We are not followers of Mrs. Eddy, but the impact of mind upon mind, at times, produces remarkable results.

"It is necessary for all to enter a beginning class." Demurs are met by the rejoinder, "if you've never studied



KOBE COLLEGE ACADEMY HALL.

geometry, could you enter a class just finishing the book?" An affirmative being impossible, there is no alternative —the national motto, shall I call it?— "*Shikata ga nai!*" is framed by unwilling lips. "However, just as soon as you conquer the work in the lowest class, you can enter the next higher. It rests with you how long you stay in the lower classes." Some try, and rise, term by term, others, year after year, make but microscopic efforts to improve, and stay accordingly.

An outline of the course—To recognize and produce the tones of the tonic chord, and its octaves, in any order,—To read, and write neatly, from dictation, the simplest rhythms—Individual singing of such exercises; to read, write from dictation, and understand rhythms of common hymn-tunes.

To think—to arouse this largely dormant faculty, is a difficult undertaking, but necessary. Interest must be awakened and held and constantly stimulated. Sometimes the class hears: "What did you come here for?" From the variety of answers we select: "To learn to sing." "What is necessary in order to learn to sing?" From the highly heterogeneous replies, "teeth, tongue, book, baton, pencil," etc., we select *ear* and *memory*, and enlarge upon them, going on to: "How many sounds did you hear, were they alike, how were they different, what was the mental effect?" etc.

Our next grade takes up two new tones, thus making us able to sing easy music with tonic and dominant chords (doh and soh), a little harder rhythms; individual singing; dictation; mental effect is constantly considered. Three questions are posers. "What is a keynote?" "What is the difference between key and scale?" (Of course it is plain to you. *Key* means the head of the family with his children groupt round him in any fashion. *Scale*, the head of the family with the rest in regular order of precedence, according to rank and character.) "What is the difference between whole step and whole beat?" (This may seem blind to you; whole step concerns pitch. A sound one beat long, concerns time. Tonal relations and rhythmic relations are often confused.)

In our next grade, we add the subdominant chord, thus completing the scale; use more difficult rhythms; individual singing; easy chromatics, major and minor mode; all common chords; all intervals; major, minor, chromatic scales; easy modulations and transitions—to understand, sing and write.

By this time, some power of that has been attained, some ear-training and voice-training accomplisht; in short, it's a foundation.

Our circumstances are peculiar; most of our pupils come to us never having heard a chord sung, tho their experience has been rich in hearing a number of sounds performed simultaneously; hence their ear is greatly confused by the ordinary combination, tho "natural selection" has to be learned.

Such pupils, beginning the organ, are fully one half a year behind girls who've had our regular singing training, which gives us everything needed but technical training of hands and feet and counting.

From the very first we play in all keys and modes, putting any or everything into any notation, always making intervals prominent, for they are unchangeable. The C clef has no terrors for us; in fact, music, the *thing* itself, is what we study, be it hidden in whatsoever guise.

The study of authentic cadences, in all keys and modes, we find valuable, our final work being the using of them in such problems as, "go from key A flat to key F"; "go from key B minor to G major", etc.

We have music history, too. All this fall we've lived near neighbors to Hayden and Mozart. We shed a tear of sympathy for the coldly-treated, too-early-cut-off genius. We have our own opinion of the German haus-frau who neglected the brave little five-year-old singer, "who liked to be clean."

True, many think "Jordan is a hard road to trabble," and fall by the wayside. Some continue for a season; note a case in point. "Teacher, you know I studied music before in———Girls' School, and I don't know anything about the scale of B flat; they didn't teach it there." "Never too late to mend. We can conquer it now!" But it was the last straw. (The previous one was counting. "I never could count.") She left to be music teacher in a large school. They are well satisfied with her.

Ah! Ah! Life has bitter disappointments! The speaker for a group of senior academy girls, plead, with tear-wet eyes, with the stony-hearted, uncomprehending teacher, who asked her to "explain what chords are the foundation of all common hymn-tunes." "We don't know anything about chords, and we don't want to. We have only a short time more in school, and we want something practical; teach us pretty songs, for instance." As a direct consequence of their strong feelings, that group of girls left school, ignorant of almost everything mentioned in grade three.

I am told that some, who while with us, could not be considered as shining lights, on return to their village homes, find themselves oracles, and only then, when too late, sorrow over wasted opportunities. But the shield has another side; there are bright girls, eager-to-learn girls, willing-to-be-taught girls.

There is need for courage, hope, and patience; the greatest of all is patience. Are we satisfied? No. With no enlightened public opinion, we suffer. Your sisters, and your cousins, and your aunts, not to speak of your parents and grandparents, goaded you on and constantly reinforced school authorities. You heard music everywhere, from your infancy; so did your ancestors. Toil *is* painful. Art *is* long, work *is* work.

There are still a few vacancies for bright pupils. Apply at once and we promise you an experience meeting, several years long.

ELIZABETH TORREY.

Kobe College Sunday School Work.

For years it has been customary for some of our Kobe College students to be engaged in Sunday School work; and in that connection a teachers' class has generally been conducted. Last spring, however, the students in Sunday School work were organized into the "Kobe College Sunday School Volunteer Band," with a motto chosen from Christ's words to Peter, "Feed my lambs." With this organization, a closer supervision of the work done, and a stimulus from the sense of coöperation in the work, are made possible. The meetings of the Band twice a week are brief, but to the point: the first one aims to study the lesson for its own sake, the second to study it with a view of presenting it to small children.

The members of the Band have not all the same calling. Some are regular teachers of Sunday School classes, some combine the functions of singing teacher with that of class-teacher, some are school secretaries, two are assistants in the Infant Department of the Kobe Church Sunday School, and find their principal duties in waiting on the children and keeping them quiet; while some are professional "substitutes," holding themselves ready to take the place of any member who may not be able to take her class for the day.

At present count, there are thirty-two girls engaged in Sunday School work. These are working in ten localities, as follows: four in the Kobe Church Sunday School, two in the Kobe Church *Kōgi-sho* in Okuhirano, Kobe, two in the Ikuta Church Sunday School, two in the Kobe Presbyterian Church, one in the Presbyterian *Kōgisho* in Hyogo, one in the Baptist Church Sunday School, one in the Baptist Kindergarten Sunday School, six in the Kobe Orphanage Sunday School, four in the Hanakuma and four in the Kitano Sunday School; these, with five substitutes, complete the quota. It is a pleasure to see that there are no denominational boundaries in this work. There is, also, at the College a Sunday School for its own scholars; but as none of the College pupils are teachers in this school, it is not included in this list.

Of the classes that they *do* teach, there are boys' classes and girls' classes, and mixed classes, generally from ten to fifteen in a class; and the grades extend from kindergarten age to fourteen or fifteen. The smaller children are in the majority, however, as is suitable considering the youth of the teachers. The Orphanage Sunday School consists of the Orphanage children that have not yet finished the Lower Primary School (the older ones are sent to the Kobe Church Sunday School), and aside from the head of the institution, who acts as Sunday School superintendent, all the teachers are from the College. In the above list of Sunday Schools, however, the last two are conducted entirely by the College,—one in the Christian home of an alumna, one in small rooms rented from a non-Christian family near the Kobe Church. Such propinquity is not ideal, but pains have been taken to make sure that children are not drawn away from the Kobe Church Sunday School.

These two Sunday Schools are small, the combined attendance averaging perhaps thirty-five; but considering the inexperience of most of the teachers, and especially of the missionary in charge, it is a good thing not to have too many,—lest our feeble powers of restraint be overwhelmed. These two Sunday Schools held joint Christmas exercises, coming to the College for them; gleefully going through a short program of recitations and songs, they were rewarded by a gift and a bag of *sembei* (wafers), and escorted home by their teachers, who had willingly given both of time and money for the successful consummation of the celebration. The expense of the occasion was more than half met by voluntary contributions from the Kobe College girls.

How much of good this work stands for I leave my readers to judge. There has been some lengthening of cords and strengthening of stakes already in the first two terms of this school-year, for in three of the localities above mentioned our girls have only recently begun to go. An application from the Hyogo Church Sunday School is now under consideration. It is not the extensive, however, but the intensive, quality of the work that interests me most. To see a timid, shrinking girl develop out of her first failures before a Sunday School class, into a self-possessed, self-forgetting teacher who knows her subject and has established a bond of sympathy between herself and her pupils—this is the evolution that to me speaks the most of good prophecy and of labor well-spent.

CHARLOTTE DEFOREST.

Some Characteristics of Kobe College.

In early Meiji the educational system of the West was established and to train teachers, a Girls' Normal School was founded in every prefecture, these forty schools having some three thousand pupils. The graduates were so different from other women in ideals and self-respect, their bearing and course of action so radically new, that society was astonished and thought such girls were fast becoming masculine. In many quarters a struggle arose between the old ideas and the new and the cry was heard, "too early to give girls higher education!" After a few classes had graduated, the schools were closed; about 1888 Girls' High Schools were started in some places, but not until about 1899 was there a decidedly popular demand for them. That sudden acceleration of the movement has already led to over one hundred such schools, with two hundred to three hundred pupils in the smaller, and six hundred to seven hundred, in the larger ones. Each school is constantly compelled to turn away from half to two thirds of the applicants, because of inadequate accommodations.

I have taught fifteen years in government schools, during the last four of which I was dean of a large Girls' High School, from which I recently came to Kobe College. It is natural for me to make comparisons between my former and present experience. But so recent is my connection with Kobe College, that I am not yet fully acquainted with it and I trust I shall be pardoned if I misrepresent it. I venture to name a few of what seem to me its excellent and special characteristics. Among these I need not dwell on the moral and spiritual life of the College, since the public generally understands that the moral results of schools under religious influences are superior to those of non-religious schools.

LOCATION AND BUILDINGS.—There's a saying: "where famous mountains and great rivers are in proximity, there under the concentrated power of their ennobling influence, warriors of heroic stripe spring up" (*Meizan taisen no aru tokoro ni wa sansui shurei no ki atsumari-korite eiketsu no shi wo shōzu*). Confucius, too, says, "the mind reflects its environment" (*Kyo wa kokoro wo utsusu*). Kobe College is located in the healthiest city in Japan, a city noted for its scenery—on the southern slope of Suwayama whose green trees afford a restful background and whose outlook is over the beautiful harbor; gentle breezes from the Inland Sea waft hither influences which but deepen the sense of beauty all about. Add to this the fine College buildings, crowned by the last and best of all, our new, three-storied Chapel, and may we not expect to see many excellent women graduating from this institution, exemplifying the saying of Confucius?

Government Girls' High Schools we find confronted by two difficulties—constant pressure to receive more pupils than they can accommodate, and the fact that local assemblies and the public

are unable to afford sufficient money to satisfy the increasing needs. So when a site is chosen or a building erected, considerations of temporary expediency often prevail and poor locations with unsatisfactory buildings are the result. Few government schools can vie with Kobe College either in her splendid location or in her fine buildings.

Inspiring Traditions.—The strongest indirect influence in academic life comes from school traditions. As stated above the majority of existing government Girls' High Schools were opened only some eight years ago, and their history is too brief, on one hand, to allow much in the way of traditions, while, on the other, the principals and corps of instructors are frequently changed, impeding thereby the growth of excellent traditions. Kobe College has a long history, during which many precious traditions have sprung up. The noble altruism of friends of the College, in America, the deep-seated affection of its graduates for their alma mater, the fond interest of its teachers in graduates and pupils, these and other influences too many to mention, create such traditions.

To mention a few specific illustrations, once an American teacher retired from the school to return to America because of ill-health, but, after a time, learning that no suitable successor could be found, tho not recovered, she returned to the College. Compare such a teacher with the average teacher who resigns or changes his position whenever he thinks it for his advantage. What a wide difference in moral purpose! One of the Japanese teachers has been teaching in Kobe College over twenty-six years, devoting his life entirely to its welfare. Other teachers have worked with wonderful energy, strong devotion to duty, and zeal for the College's interests, especially in the direction of economy, never wasting even a piece of paper which could in any way be used.

A majority of the graduates are valuable helpers of their husbands in many callings—in religious work, in educational, in professional and other lines, all the while making good homes. I could mention many instances of such wives who are a great stimulus to their husbands in their successful careers. The hearts of the present students are influenced to an immeasurable degree by such graduates, and this is one of the chief characteristics of Kobe College, which can not be paralleled in the government schools.

Intellectual Activity.—Students in Kobe College are mentally active, while those in government schools, by contrast, may be called passive. Among educators in the Girls' High Schools there prevails a strong current of thought to the effect that stimulation of intellectual development in girls tends to deprive them of their natural grace and tenderness and endangers their health; so there is a tendency to lighten their intellectual tasks. Setting aside the question of correctness or no of this position, there results inevitably from such an opinion a less complete mental training, less clear mental conceptions, while undeniably pupils often lose their energy and become passive listeners, not venturing to ask questions even about what is obscure. This is not the case with Kobe College students, who have an untiring energy for study, and eagerly ask questions until their doubts are dissolved. More than one teacher of experience in both government and mission school, has emphasized the latter's superiority in method of instruction, as better adapted to cultivate this mentally active mood on the part of students. Yosohachi Yokogawa.

College Paragraphs.

Few realize that the College started as a primary school for *boys* and girls, with a predominance of the former. The *daimyō* and his friends asked the missionary ladies to teach their children English. This led to the opening of the Day School, which continued for a year

or more. When a site was bought and a building erected, the Day School pupils were transferred. The teachers could not well decline to have the boys longer, and, besides, not many girls could be expected, with the views then prevalent about girls' education. But soon it was fully determined to make it a girls' school and the boys were graduated or disposed of as soon as this could conveniently be brought about.

The first class ever graduated from Kobe College, consisted of twelve members, and at graduation, the class sat in the body of the house, while each rose in her place with back to most of the audience, and read her essay with downcast eyes and in so gentle a voice that few, if any, were the wiser for the reading. As it was, society in those days, was almost scandalized at the idea of a girl's reading at all in such a public way. The third class was induced to read from a very low platform, but it was regarded as a great innovation.

Prof. Yokogawa emphasizes the good fortune of the College in the long service it has enjoyed from some teachers. In thirty-two years it has had but four principals, Miss Eliza Talcott (Kobe), 1875-1880, 1882-1883, Miss Virginia A. Clarkson (Mrs. C. M. Cady, Kyoto), 1880-1882, Miss Emily M. Brown (Mrs. J. R. Harkness, Santa Cruz, Calif.), 1883-1892, Miss Susan A. Searle (Kobe), 1892—. Misses Dudley and Barrows were teachers in the school for about five years. Pres. Harada came directly from his studies at the Dōshisha, to get his first experience as a teacher, at the school, and from it he went into his first pastorate of Kobe Church, in 1884.

How many in the Mission ever heard of Kobe Eiwa Jo-gakkō? On March 28, 1894 the first public announcement was made of the change of this name to Kobe Jo-gaku-in, and the name Kobe Girls' School was formally changed to Kobe College for Girls, altho since 1891 it had been doing work of college grade.

At the dedication of Science Hall and Music Hall, March 28, 1894, Mrs. Moses Smith's letter of greeting contained the words; "Long may this College be a bond of union between the ancient and honorable Empire of Japan and the Republic of the United States of America. 'May peace be within they walls and prosperity within thy palaces.'" Pres. Harada, in his address at the dedication of the Chapel, eloquently declared that Kobe College and similar institutions, are a strong bond of international friendship.

Since 1889 there has been an annual school motto, hung conspicuously in the chapel, and emphasized much in meetings and on public occasions. The list follows in order. Keep thyself pure.—Walk in the light.—Bear ye one another's burdens—Grow in grace.—Ye are not your own.—Christ liveth in me.—Be ye stedfast.—Follow peace with all men.—To the glory of God.—In his name.—Follow me.—Looking unto Jesus.—He giveth as the victory.—From strength to strength.—Pure in heart.—Out of darkness into light.—Be thou a blessing.—Not by might, but by my Spirit.—Love one another as I have loved you.—The truth shall make you free.

Kobe College was recently placed in control of a Board of thirteen Managers, of which Rev. J. D. Davis, D.D., of Kyoto, is president. Beside missionaries, the number includes Pres. Harada, of the Dōshisha, Mr. Kichitaro Muramatsu, Kobe, Mrs. Kichiro Yuasa, Kyoto, and Mrs. Kajinosuke Ibuka, Tokyo.

During the first quarter century of Kobe College, there were one hundred and sixty graduates, of whom nine-tenths were Christians. One hundred and twenty-five have graduated since 1900. It is estimated that in the thirty-two years, there have been fifteen hundred girls, many of whom became Christians. The teaching staff at present consists of twenty-four instructors, seventeen Japanese and seven Americans, of whom seven including one Ameri-

can, give only part time. There are fifteen in the collegiate and one hundred and ninety in the academic course. A. W. S.

Constitution of the Board of Managers of Kobe College.

[Subject to approval by the Executive Committee of the W. B. M. I.]

I.—The government of Kobe College is entrusted to a Board of Managers, to consist of twelve members (besides the Principal of the College who shall be, *ex-officio*, a member), and of these at least two shall be alumnae of the institution.

II.—The Managers shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior on nomination by the Japan Mission of the American Board.

III.—At the first appointment four shall be appointed for three years, four for two years, and four for one year; thereafter they shall hold office for three years. The term of office shall be from Sept. 15.

IV.—In case of the death, resignation or departure from Japan of any Manager the Board of Managers shall choose a substitute to serve during the remainder of that person's term.

V.—It shall be the duty of the Board of Managers to maintain the College as a place for the Christian education of young women of Japan, and no change shall be made in the character of the College except with the approval of the Executive Committee of said Woman's Board.

VI.—The powers of the Board of Managers shall extend to all departments of Kobe College (Kobe Jo Gakuin) and shall be such as the following:—(1) the appointment and dismissal of teachers (provided that for the appointment or dismissal of the Principal the consent of the Executive Committee of said Woman's Board shall be necessary); (2) the determination of courses of study and of rules; (3) the supervision of the finances.

VII.—The election of the Principal and elections to fill vacancies on the Board shall be by ballot.

VIII.—The Board shall hold two regular meetings in the year at such times as may be determined in the by-laws. The first meeting shall be held in January, 1907, at the call of the Principal of the College. Special meetings may be called by the President of the Board at the request of three members, giving seven days' notice.

IX.—The officers of the Board shall be a President and Secretary, who shall be elected by ballot at the fall meeting in each year. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of the Board, and, together with the Principal, to certify by signature or seal the diplomas given by the College; of the Secretary to keep the minutes and to preserve the documents of the Board, and to send an annual report to the Woman's Board of the Interior together with the annual report which the Principal shall send through him.

X.—The Treasurer of the Japan Mission of the American Board shall be, *ex-officio*, the Treasurer of the College. He shall invest the permanent funds of the College and apply their income as determined by the Board of Managers.

The Board shall choose an Assistant Treasurer who shall have charge of the current income and expenditures under the direction of the Board.

The Board shall provide for the audit of the accounts of both the Treasurer and the Assistant Treasurer.

XI.—The Board shall have power to make all needed by-laws by a majority vote of those present at any regular meeting.

XII.—This constitution may be changed by a vote of not less than nine members of the Board, subject to approval by the Executive Committee of said Woman's Board.

Woman's Evangelistic School.

We are having our musical taste developed these days by the constant drill with hammer and saw on our new building for the Woman's Evangelistic School, which we expect will be ready for use in March. Before that time we shall send out a new prospectus for the school involving somewhat radical changes. The name of the school is to be changed, the time of the beginning of the school year is to be changed from November to April, the standard of admission to the regular course is to be somewhat raised, and a higher course is to be added.

We had been hoping to begin the higher course in April but our hopes did not keep pace with the Lord's plans for us, for in November three suitable candidates for the higher course presented themselves, so eager to fit themselves for Christian work that they were ready to take the regular course. We thought this an opportune time to begin the new course which was made possible by the increase in our teaching force.

We shall be ready to receive pupils for both courses in April and hope that the members of the mission will cooperate with us in letting those who contemplate entering the school, know of the change in the time of admission and also by influencing graduates of girls' schools to avail themselves of this new course in preparing for evangelistic work.

GERTRUDE COZAD.

Okayama at the Turn of the Year.

The goat year dies. The ape year is born. Monkey postal cards burden our mails and a striking picture of Hideyoshi, Japan's great monkey-faced hero, adorns the New Year's edition of one of our local papers.

The Christmas celebrations this season, stretching from December fifteenth to the twenty-ninth with one more still in reserve, had an exceptional tone of gravity and educational value. Members of the station participated in some fifteen different ones. The two most unique observances were a dinner for fifty forlorn beggars by Miss Adams and her associates at Hanabatake, and the celebrations at the big Orphanage. There being no available building spacious enough to accommodate Mr. Ishii's "large small family," an immense covered booth was constructed on the school play ground, which as the day was fine comfortably accommodated an audience of twelve hundred persons.

In his New Year's speech to the children superintendent Ishii reported the total receipts at the Orphanage for 1907 to have been *yen* 103,000, of which *yen* 60,000 was secured by the Orphanage bands in connection with their entertainments in various parts of the country. The total disbursements were *yen* 138,000, (I give round numbers only), leaving a deficit of *yen* 35,000. The special Christmas gifts in response to circulars sent out, amounted to over *yen* 800, and returns are still coming in. It will be noted that the Orphanage bands have raised a much larger amount than in any preceding year, but the sudden falling off in special gifts for famine relief work resulted in a debt, in spite of hard work to avoid one.

Mr. Ishii and his associates are keen for the new year's work and are determined, if possible, to meet this year's ordinary needs, remove that debt, and build the greatly needed chapel before another Christmas celebration. In spite of some fears and criticisms to the contrary I can confidently assert that the spiritual condition of both workers and children is thoroly healthy and hopeful. The institution is doing both a great and a good work, and no one need hesitate to trust and assist it.

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